

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Office of the Chief Admin. Officer

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
901 NEW YORK AVENUE NW SUITE 200  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

*Ida Post Office* P 2:23  
*Ida, AR 72546*  
POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Postal Service's decision to close our post office and provide rural delivery service raises questions concerning the sanctity of the mail and the risks involved in the handling of mail by non-career employees. We also foresee inconveniences in purchasing money orders and stamps, and sending accountable mail. We have the same concerns regarding the receipt of accountable mail, such as certified letters, registered letters and CODs.

The Postal Service's decision to consolidate our post office with another post office is being done over our objections. This will mean the loss of our identity as a community. We will not have a postmaster to whom we can take our problems, complaints and compliments. We will be directed to a distant postmaster in the home office of our station.

We cannot see any savings to the Postal Service under this arrangement. The clerk in charge of the station will be earning as much as our postmaster and, more than likely, will not be a resident of our community.

We feel that, as citizens of the United States, we are entitled to the same efficient postal service provided to our counterparts in urban areas. The Postal Reorganization Act is explicit in pointing this out. We petition you, as members of the Postal Regulatory Commission, to respectfully consider our protest and order the Postal Service to give additional considerations to our service needs.

Respectfully,

*Vernon Altom*  
P.O. Box 85  
Ida, AR 72546

*Nita J. Altom*  
P.O. Box 85  
Ida, AR 72546

*There is a proposal to close Ida Post office, but the decision has not been made when it will. Before you decide please remember our plea to keep our office.*

*I feel this is an injustice to the citizens who depend on the Ida Post office for their mail service. I remember when I was a small child riding on a wagon with family members to the Ida Post Office to receive mail. This would have been almost a 5 mile ride one way. I will be seventy in less than a month so we have depended on this office for many years.*

I recently attended a meeting conducted by the Postal Service regarding the future of the Ida Post Office. I was very disappointed in the meeting in that the patrons were given very little opportunity to voice their concerns or ask questions. The lady doing the presentation seemed more concerned about retaining her job and the jobs of postal employees than trying for a solution to continue providing service at the Ida Post Office. I am a retired school administrator and my experience in dealing with school district patrons was a very different approach than that present at the recent meeting.

I realize that there may be financial concerns with the Postal Service and some of the problems arise from the wages requested by the Postal Employees Union. Maybe a solution to the problem would be action like that taken by the Wisconsin Governor. I am not opposed to the original purpose of labor unions but I am opposed to their agenda today. Much of our industry has relocated abroad or to states with right-to-work laws.

Our patrons begged for a part time service at Ida but it appeared to fall on deaf ears. If there is anything that you can do to provide service, even partial service, it would be greatly appreciated and it would relieve a hardship that is about to be thrust upon our citizens. Please consider my request before placing a hardship on the citizens of Ida.

Sincerely  
Vernon Atton